

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Currently Amended) A method for improving the performance of a decoder, comprising:  
determining an energy value for a transmission from a first station to a second station, the decoder residing in the second station;  
forming a message carrying an indicator of the energy value, the identity of the target destination of the payload data, the transmission rate of the subpacket and the number of subpackets to carry the full amount of the data payload; and  
transmitting the message to the second station,  
wherein the energy value is a traffic-to-pilot ratio and (1) determining an energy value includes locating the energy value in a look-up table and selecting an index value associated with the energy value, and (2) forming a message carrying an indicator of the energy value includes forming a message including the index value.
2. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the step of transmitting the message comprises positioning the message in a preamble.
3. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the step of transmitting the message comprises positioning the message in a subpacket.
4. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the step of transmitting the message comprises positioning the message between a preamble and a subpacket.
5. (Canceled)

6. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the first station is a base station and the second station is a remote station.

7. (Original) The method of Claim 1 wherein the first station is a remote station and the second station is a base station.

8. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for improving the performance of a decoder, comprising:

means for determining an energy value for a transmission from a first station to a second station, the decoder residing in the second station;

means for forming a message carrying an indicator of the energy value, the identity of the target destination of the payload data, the transmission rate of the subpacket and the number of subpackets to carry the full amount of the data payload; and

means for transmitting the message to the second station,

wherein the energy value is a traffic-to-pilot ratio and (1) the means for determining an energy value locates the energy value in a look-up table and selects an index value associated with the energy value, and (2) the means for forming a message carrying an indicator of the energy value forms a message including the index value.

9. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable media including computer-readable instructions thereon for performing the steps of:

determining an energy value for a transmission from a first station to a second station, a decoder residing in the second station;

forming a message carrying an indicator of the energy value, the identity of the target destination of the payload data, the transmission rate of the subpacket and the number of subpackets to carry the full amount of the data payload; and

transmitting the message to the second station,

wherein the energy value is a traffic-to-pilot ratio and (1) the step of determining an energy value includes locating the energy value in a look-up table and selecting an index value

associated with the energy value, and (2) the step of forming a message carrying an indicator of the energy value includes forming a message including the index value.

10. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for improving the performance of a decoder, comprising:

a transmission power control unit for determining an energy value for a transmission from a first station to a second station, the decoder residing in the second station; and

a channel element coupled to the transmission power control unit for forming a message carrying an indicator of the energy value, the identity of the target destination of the payload data, the transmission rate of the subpacket and the number of subpackets to carry the full amount of the data payload and for transmitting the message to the second station,

wherein the energy value is a traffic-to-pilot ratio and (1) determining an energy value includes locating the energy value in a look-up table and selecting an index value associated with the energy value, and (2) forming a message carrying an indicator of the energy value includes forming a message including the index value.

11. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 10, wherein the transmitting the message comprises positioning the message in a preamble.

12. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 10, wherein the transmitting the message comprises positioning the message in a subpacket.

13. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 10, wherein the transmitting the message comprises positioning the message between a preamble and a subpacket.

14. (Canceled).

15. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 10, wherein the first station is a base station and the second station is a remote station.

16. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 10 wherein the first station is a remote station and the second station is a base station.

17. (Currently Amended) A base station for improving the performance of a decoder, comprising:

a transmission power control unit for determining an energy value for a transmission from a first station to a second station, the decoder residing in the second station;

a channel element coupled to the transmission power control unit for forming a message carrying an indicator of the energy value, the identity of the target destination of the payload data, the transmission rate of the subpacket and the number of subpackets to carry the full amount of the data payload; and

a transmitter adapted to transmit the message in a forward link channel to the remote stations,

wherein the energy value is a traffic-to-pilot ratio and (1) determining an energy value includes locating the energy value in a look-up table and selecting an index value associated with the energy value, and (2) forming a message carrying an indicator of the energy value includes forming a message including the index value.

18. (Currently Amended) A remote station for improving the performance of a decoder, comprising:

a transmission power control unit for determining an energy value for a transmission to a base station, the decoder residing in the base station;

a channel element coupled to the transmission power control unit for forming a message carrying an indicator of the energy value, the identity of the target destination of the payload data, the transmission rate of the subpacket and the number of subpackets to carry the full amount of the data payload; and

a transmitter adapted to transmit the message in a reverse link channel to the base station,

wherein the energy value is a traffic-to-pilot ratio and (1) determining an energy value includes locating the energy value in a look-up table and selecting an index value associated with

the energy value, and (2) forming a message carrying an indicator of the energy value includes forming a message including the index value.